adding to each transition leaving "p" a non-ε-transitions, wherein each state

"q" is left with its weights pre-multiplied by an ε-distance from state "p" to a state "q"

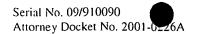in the input transducer.--

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment corrects the claim numbering. Kindly enter the

foregoing preliminary amendment prior to examination of the claims.

Respectfully submitted
Mehryar Mohri

By _____

Thomas M. Isaacson
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___02/07/2002___
Date

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IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 through 30 have been cancelled.

New claims 31 through 56 have been added.